President : Why did they cultivate at all then ?

License for sale of food stuff in Munnar.

14. ***Mr. James Fletcher** (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod cum Neyyattinkara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many merchants from Munnar, Devicolam taluk, applied for license for the sale of food stuffs ;

(b) whether a few of them applied for license so early as in Mithunam 1117 ;

(*c*) whether no merchant has received the license (for sale of food stuffs) in Munnar till the end of Vrischigom 1118; and

(*d*) whether there is any special reason for this inordinate delay ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar (*Additional Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) 31.

(b) Yes.

(*c*) 11 of the applicants have received licenses.

(*d*) No.

Mr. James Fletcher : May I know whether merchants had to come to Trivandrum for their licenses or whether the licenses were sent to the applicants from the distant parts of Travancore?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : If the applications are filled in properly, the licenses are sent to the applicants. It is not necessary that they should come to Trivandrum.

Rice production in the latter half of 1118.

15. ***Mr. James Fletcher** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the estimated production of rice in the State during the 2nd half of the year 1118 ;

(b) the approximate quantity normally required for consumption during the 2nd half of the year 1118: and

(*c*) the steps taken to make up the deficit ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : (*a*) Owing to unseasonal rains and heavy floods the estimated production of rice in the State during the second half of 1118 M. E. is 1,10,000 tons.

(*b*) About 3,09,000 tons.

(*c*) Every endeavour is being made to obtain supplies from outside the State to meet the deficit and to increase the out-turn of food crops within the State.

Mr. James Fletcher : In answer to part (c) of the question it is stated "Every endeavour is being made to obtain supplies from outside the State to meet the deficit and to increase the out-turn of food crops in the State." May I know whether Government have got sufficient reserve for a few months more ?

President : No. I may announce that even those supplies are not likely to come.

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